In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-25 and add new claims 26 to 83 as follows:

26. A device for detection of an analyte in a liquid sample, comprising a housing having disposed therein: consisting of.

(a) a dry porous carrier;

(b) an immobilized specific binding reagent which binds specifically to the analyte, said immobilized specific binding reagent being immobilized in a detection zone on or in the dry porous carrier;

(c) a labeled specific binding reagent comprising a particulate label portion and a binding portion specific for the analyte, wherein said labeled specific binding reagent and said immobilized specific binding reagent combine with analyte, if present, to form an immobilized and directly-detectable product in the detection zone; and specifically binds to the analyte

(d) a macroporous body disposed such that a liquid sample applied to the macroporous body will flow along a flow path extending from the macroporous body and into the dry porous carrier at a location separated from the detection zone, wherein the macroporous body contains the labeled specific binding reagent, said labeled specific binding reagent being freely mobile within the macroporous body when the macroporous body is wetted with the liquid sample.

b2

27. The device according to claim 26, wherein the particulate label is selected from the group consisting of coloured latex particles, gold sols, non-metallic colloids and dye sols.

28. The device of claim 26, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size which is at least 10 times greater than the maximum particle size of the particulate label.

29. The device of claim 26, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size of not less than 10 microns.

30. The device of claim 26, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size of about 100 microns.

31. The device of claim 26, wherein particulate labels have a maximum diameter of about 0.5 microns.

32. The device of claim 26, wherein the dry porous carrier is a chromatographic strip.

33. The device of claim 32, wherein the dry porous carrier is formed from nitrocellulose.

34. The device of claim 26, wherein the macroporous body is in direct moisture-conductive contact with the dry porous carrier.

35. The device of claim 34, wherein the macroporous body has a liquid capacity which is at least equal to the liquid capacity of the working portion of the dry porous carrier, said working portion extending from the location where the flow path enters the dry porous carrier to the detection zone.

36. The device of claim 26, further comprising a porous sample receiving member, said sample receiving member being disposed along the flow path such that a sample applied to the sample receiving member flows sequentially from the sample receiving member, through the macroporous body and into the dry porous carrier.

37. The device of claim 36, wherein the sample receiving member extends from the inside of the housing to the exterior of the housing.

38. The device of claim 37, further comprising a removable cap or shroud disposed over the portion of the sample receiving member which is exterior to the housing.

39. The device of claim 26, wherein the housing has an aperture formed therein for observation of the detection zone.

40. The device of claim 26, wherein the immobilized reagent is impregnated throughout the dry porous carrier in the detection zone.

41. The device of claim 26, wherein the labeled specific binding reagent and the immobilized specific binding reagent each comprise an analyte-specific antibody.

42. The device of claim 26, further comprising a non-specific control reagent disposed in a control zone of the dry porous carrier, said control reagent capturing the labeled specific binding reagent to produce a detectable product in the control zone in the presence or absence of analyte in an applied sample.

43. The device of claim 26, wherein the macroporous body comprises a plastic material.

Sub E1

B2

44. The device of claim 26, wherein the device further comprises a second immobilized specific binding reagent which binds specifically to a second analyte, said second immobilized specific binding reagent being immobilized in a second detection zone on or in the dry porous carrier and a second labeled specific binding reagent comprising a particulate label portion and a binding portion specific for the second analyte, wherein said second labeled specific binding reagent and said second immobilized specific binding reagent combine with the second analyte, if present, to form an immobilized and directly-detectable product in the second detection zone, said second labeled specific binding reagent being contained in the macroporous body.

45. The device of claim 26, wherein the analyte is human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG), and the immobilized specific binding reagent and the labeled specific binding reagent each bind to hCG.

46. The device according to claim 45, wherein the particulate label is selected from the group consisting of coloured latex particles, gold sols, non-metallic colloids and dye sols.

47. The device of claim 45, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size which is at least 10 times greater than the maximum particle size of the particulate label.

48. The device of claim 45, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size of not less than 10 microns.

49. The device of claim 45, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size of about 100 microns.

50. The device of claim 45, wherein particulate labels have a maximum diameter of about 0.5 microns.

51. The device of claim 45, wherein the dry porous carrier is a chromatographic strip.

52. The device of claim 51, wherein the dry porous carrier is formed from nitrocellulose.

53. The device of claim 45, wherein the macroporous body is in direct moisture-conductive contact with the dry porous carrier.

54. The device of claim 53, wherein the macroporous body has a liquid capacity which is at least equal to the liquid capacity of the working portion of the dry porous carrier, said working

portion extending from the location where the flow path enters the dry porous carrier to the detection zone.

55. The device of claim 45, further comprising a porous sample receiving member, said sample receiving member being disposed along the flow path such that a sample applied to the sample receiving member flows sequentially from the sample receiving member, through the macroporous body and into the dry porous carrier.

56. The device of claim 55, wherein the sample receiving member extends from the inside of the housing to the exterior of the housing.

57. The device of claim 56, further comprising a removable cap or shroud disposed over the portion of the sample receiving member which is exterior to the housing.

58. The device of claim 45, wherein the housing has an aperture formed therein for observation of the detection zone.

59. The device of claim 45, wherein the immobilized reagent is impregnated throughout the dry porous carrier in the detection zone.

60. The device of claim 45, wherein the labeled specific binding reagent and the immobilized specific binding reagent each comprise an analyte-specific antibody.

61. The device of claim 45, further comprising a non-specific control reagent disposed in a control zone of the dry porous carrier, said control reagent capturing the labeled specific binding reagent to produce a detectable product in the control zone in the presence or absence of analyte in an applied sample.

62. The device of claim 45, wherein the macroporous body comprises a plastic material.

63. The device of claim 45, wherein the device further comprises a second immobilized specific binding reagent which binds specifically to a second analyte, said second immobilized specific binding reagent being immobilized in a second detection zone on or in the dry porous carrier and a second labeled specific binding reagent comprising a particulate label portion and a binding portion specific for the second analyte, wherein said second labeled specific binding reagent and said second immobilized specific binding reagent combine with the second analyte, if present, to form an immobilized and directly-detectable product in the second detection zone, said second labeled specific binding reagent being contained in the macroporous body.

64. The device of claim 26, wherein the analyte is luteinizing hormone(LH), and the immobilized specific binding reagent and the labeled specific binding reagent each bind to LH.

65. The device according to claim 64, wherein the particulate label is selected from the group consisting of coloured latex particles, gold sols, non-metallic colloids and dye sols.

66. The device of claim 64, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size which is at least 10 times greater than the maximum particle size of the particulate label.

67. The device of claim 64, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size of not less than 10 microns.

68. The device of claim 64, wherein the macroporous body has a pore size of about 100 microns.

69. The device of claim 64, wherein particulate labels have a maximum diameter of about 0.5 microns.

70. The device of claim 64, wherein the dry porous carrier is a chromatographic strip.

71. The device of claim 70, wherein the dry porous carrier is formed from nitrocellulose.

72. The device of claim 64, wherein the macroporous body is in direct moisture-conductive contact with the dry porous carrier.

73. The device of claim 72, wherein the macroporous body has a liquid capacity which is at least equal to the liquid capacity of the working portion of the dry porous carrier, said working portion extending from the location where the flow path enters the dry porous carrier to the detection zone.

74. The device of claim 64, further comprising a porous sample receiving member, said sample receiving member being disposed along the flow path such that a sample applied to the sample receiving member flows sequentially from the sample receiving member, through the macroporous body and into the dry porous carrier.

75. The device of claim 64, wherein the sample receiving member extends from the inside of the housing to the exterior of the housing.

76. The device of claim 75, further comprising a removable cap or shroud disposed over the portion of the sample receiving member which is exterior to the housing.

77. The device of claim 64, wherein the housing has an aperture formed therein for observation of the detection zone.

78. The device of claim 64, wherein the immobilized reagent is impregnated throughout the dry porous carrier in the detection zone.

b2

79. The device of claim 64, wherein the labeled specific binding reagent and the immobilized specific binding reagent each comprise an analyte-specific antibody.